





# The Avalanche

O. PALMER, Publisher.  
GRAYLING, MICHIGAN.

The devil is the original base burner.

When a man commits suicide by drowning can it be said that he liquidates the debt of nature?

CYNICUS says that a woman's idea of journalism is writing up somebody who will write her up in return.

The one that takes no chances is reminded that much business cannot be transacted in a cyclone cellar.

The man that feels like swearing and does not is either a very good Christian or very much of a gentleman.

A grain importer of Great Britain, while traveling in Manitoba recently, gave out the valuable information at Winnipeg that New York exporters mix Manitoba and Argentine wheat and sell it abroad as the best. As this country does not import wheat from the Argentine Republic, it may be that the mixing is done after the wheat arrives in England. The mixing is always done by the other fellow.

The Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce has made a sweeping reduction in its membership fees and dues. The fee is reduced from \$50 to \$5, and the dues are reduced from \$30 per annum to \$1 per month. The members believe they can accomplish more with a large membership and small dues than with a small membership and large dues. The business men of Salt Lake are alive and energetic. Their cry is, "Greater Salt Lake." The Commercial Tribune thinks the business men of other cities would do well to follow this example and combine in greater numbers and push forward in unity of action and purpose.

The school savings bank system has been demonstrated to be a success by the experience of Norristown, Pottstown, Chester and other cities of Pennsylvania. In Chester the money at interest from school savings is nearly \$32,000, the bulk of which was deposited in pennies, nickels and dimes. One pupil alone is reported to have accumulated \$400. Flourishing school banks have been established in Colorado, Kansas and North Dakota, and there are now 400 such banks in the country. But Pennsylvania still has the honor of being in the lead of all the States in the number of these institutions.

The number of employees killed on the railroads every year is not a nice subject, but it is well worth keeping in mind, and mentioning at intervals until something is done to check the slaughter. Here, for example, says the Hartford Courant, is a comparison with the mortality in coal mining, which is claimed as a hazardous occupation. In 1892 there was in Pennsylvania one fatal accident to every 378 persons employed in the coal mines, and one non-fatal accident to every 153. But among railroad train hands the same year one was killed to every 115 employed, and one hurt to every twenty-eight employed. There is no sufficient reason for such a record.

A MANY times millionaire, who had no education and to whom the great world of culture and refinement is like a sealed book, tries to dissuade a boy from getting a higher education. The argument he uses is that there are too many educated people working for \$40 to \$50 per month. With people who look merely upon the superficial and money side of every thing this is a strong argument, but the fact remains that even though an education does not seem to reach or help a natural fool, the smartest self-made man in the world recognizes the fact that well as he can work under a handicap he could work all the better for having the best tools to work with.

With the advent of electric street railways and the general use of bicycles, the demand for horses has decreased rapidly. Even on the farm, machinery is displacing horse power. Every year witnesses an increased use of steam and electrical power and decreased use of horses and mules. The time is nearly at hand when there will be no demand worth mentioning for any horses except blooded animals for driving, riding and draught purposes. The all-around horse of a generation ago has lost his job. The world moves and the horse breeder who fails to keep up with the procession would better seek some other means of earning a living.

The training of business tends to make the individual punctual, systematic, correct, often building up the character of young employees by imperative demands for reliability. To the women, who from social and industrial conditions have found it expedient to enter largely into various pursuits, it has been a liberal education along practical lines. It has taught them, as it taught their brothers—much-needed quality of comradeship, which has the flavor of both charity and friendship. Much of the old-fashioned hysteria has disappeared under congenial study and employment which has tempered the physical make-up with an endurance that comes only from mental poise.

Most moral dangers have an inviting look.

Much party whitewash is made from servile ink.

When Madeline Pollard goes on the stage she will elevate it about as much as Colonel Breckinridge's clerical defenders do the pulpit.

A GRAIN dealer at Atlantic City, N. J., has made an innovation in the elevator business. He had his elevator divided into a number of separate apartments, which he let to all comers for a moderate sum. A Kansas firm which built a 100,000-bushel elevator at Chicago some years ago, but it never got beyond a suggestion. When a country shipper has grain of such an extra fine quality that it will prove profitable to preserve its identity, he can keep it at home, or store it in a special bin and sell by sample.

The danger from derelict vessels on the ocean is not duly understood by the average dweller on land. The latest Pilot Chart of the Atlantic Ocean issued by the United States Hydrographic Bureau states that during the last seven years not less than 1,626 of these have been reported, that the average number constantly afloat is estimated to be 232 per year, or nineteen per month, and that the average period a derelict is afloat after having been abandoned is about thirty days. But some of them persist much longer than that. One vessel is noted as having been reported forty-four times since its abandonment three years ago. It is known to have drifted 8,575 miles and is supposed to be still afloat.

The Russian thistle has become abundant over a large extent of country in the Dakotas, and has also been found in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas, and along the lines of railroads in Northern Illinois. The plant is said to have been brought to this country in flax seed sown in Southeastern Dakota in 1873. Perhaps the expenditure of \$1 worth of work in 1874 would have eradicated the now serious pest. It is now doubtful if it will ever be eradicated. When mature in September or October, the plant looks somewhat like the common tumble weed of the West. It is often two or three feet high and twice as much in diameter. The color of the mature plant is crimson. The number of seeds produced by one plant often reaches many thousands. When the plant is young it is readily eaten by farm animals.

A FEW years ago a young lady who desired to earn her own living found it rather a difficult task, as the field was a limited one. But at the present time they have made serious inroads in the business world, and have done it successfully, too. The great difficulty which a bright, smart girl who has to earn her own living has to contend against at the present time is the abundance of her fellow creatures who want "just a little spending money," and are willing to accept any position for any amount of wages they are offered. This works a hardship on those who have spent time and money in fitting themselves for business pursuits, and their hardest competitors are their sisters whose only ambition is to have a little spending money or else to get rid of the drudge of household work. To master shorthand or typewriting requires not only time, but hard work, and after this is accomplished it is rather discouraging to find a hundred applicants for each and every position.

## TWO PECULIAR ANIMALS.

The Genet Cat and Raccoon Dog—Fascinating at Night.

Herewith is presented the pictures of the first genet cat and raccoon dog in captivity. In the captivity of the Zoo, in New York City, the newcomers have behaved very well. All day long the cat lies asleep, the face



AN EXTRAORDINARY CAT.

almost hidden under its bushy tail; at dusk, however, it becomes exceedingly lively and excitable; a small bird flying past its cage is liable to arouse its ferocious nature to such an extent as to render it dangerous to man and beast to enter the cage.



THE RACCOON DOG.

The raccoon dog is a native of East Asia, known to science as canis procyonoides. Like the genet cat, he is eminently a beast of the night. He sleeps as long as the sun shines, but all night paces up and down the cage, looking for a loophole of escape, and becoming excited when domesticated animals, such as dogs and cats, pass.

## Wonderful Bridge.

One of the finest bridges in Europe is now being constructed across the Danube at Cornavoda, Roumania, by French engineers. It has a length of 2,400 feet, divided into five bays. Its height is 103 feet to the roadway, and its highest point is 123 feet above high water. It is of steel and supported on thirty piers.



POPE LEO XIII.

## A SCHOOL BUILDING.

DESIGN SOMEWHAT OUT OF THE ORDINARY RUN.

Very Simple and Thoroughly Constructive in All Its Parts—Materials Are Hard-Burned Brick, Relieved With Bands of Black Brick.

Cost Is \$8,000.

This plan shows a design for a good, solid, plain public school building. That it is somewhat out of the ordinary run of the every-day French roof architecture we are fully aware; and in drawing the plans for this building we have had quite a difficult problem to solve. The general dimensions are 55 by 70 feet; first and second stories having each 14-foot ceilings, while the assembly room on third floor has a ceiling 16 feet 8 inches in height. The materials are hard-burned brick, relieved with bands of black brick; window sills, lintels, water-table, and underpinning of stone; the roofs all being slated, floors all lined and deadened, walls built hollow with two inches air space.

The design is very simple and thoroughly constructive in all its

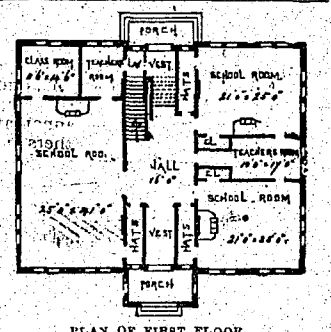


PERSPECTIVE VIEW.

parts, the cornices consisting of brick brackets, and surmounted with a wooden gutter, lined with metal. The schoolrooms are arranged so they have an abundance of light, are well ventilated and easy of access, and though all are in close proximity to, yet are in a measure isolated from each other, being divided by brick partition walls, the transmission of sound from one room to another is effectively prevented.

The entrances are placed in front and rear, and consist of spacious stone steps, with brick porch on front and slated hood on rear; the vestibules opening into a hall 16 feet wide, which contains a wide and easy staircase, leading up to floors above. This hall is convenient to all rooms, and the advantages it possesses, running as it does through the building, are at once obvious, as the unequalled ventilating facilities it affords renders it one of the best features of the plan. The basement is reached by stairs under the main stairs, and is used for heating and play-room purposes, which is well lighted, ventilated, etc.

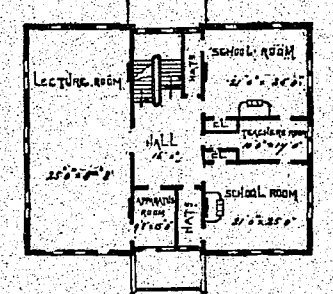
The vestibules on front and rear are easy of access, passing through



PLAN OF FIRST FLOOR.

which we reach the main hall, from which the three school rooms open, also the bath and cloak rooms for each. The sides of the school rooms are wainscoted to the height of window sills, above which are placed blackboards. A teacher's room is placed between the two smaller school rooms, and a class room is provided in connection with the larger room, also a teacher's room, which is reached from the rear vestibule. Ventilating flues are carried up in the four chimneys, and as these run up above the roof, superior draughts are obtained. Ascending to the second floor by the spacious and easy stairs, we have a large lecture room, two school rooms, bath and cloak rooms, a teacher's room and apparatus room, all connected with the hall. On third floor is a room 27x42 feet, with

a ceiling 16 feet 8 inches high, well lighted and ventilated, which at times would be found indispensable for exhibition purposes, as it is admirably situated, and easy of access from all parts of the building; and the four walls of this room being required for a support to roof, it will be seen no extra expense is added in getting this room, while the space



PLAN OF SECOND FLOOR.

around it serves as storage and for ventilating purposes.

The bell tower speaks for itself, and is not only useful but gives a great prominence to the building. This is a common sense school building, and one that gives all that it is possible to do for the amount of money expended, as the whole of the detail is simple, everything being honest, practical and substantial. Cost, \$8,000.

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## CAPTURING A STRANDED WHALE.

How Vancouver Indians Floated the Aquatic Monsters to Dry Land.

At Vancouver's Isle the winter storms blowing directly from the north Pacific bring many whales which, getting out of their latitude and fatigued with fruitless struggles, are cast upon the coast. As the receding tide leaves the whales they lash their tails, unable to regain deep water, and make a low, guttural sound as they vainly try to spout, says the Month. The native canoe, which are made of the trunk of a tree hollowed out by fire, are instantly launched. The only weapon used is a barbed spear, to which is tied a sealskin bag filled with air, and to this a rope made of seaweed is attached, acting as an anchor to the bladder of rope. A pole is fitted into the socket in the spear head, and so arranged that it can easily be withdrawn, leaving the head imbedded in the body of the whale. Armed with both these primitive weapons the natives set off in their fragile canoes and cast their spears, catching back the loose handles. In a short time the monster is covered with sealskin bags. When the tide begins to rise the bladders prevent the whale from sinking sufficiently to use his own strength, keeping him on the surface of the water. As the canoe men pull to the shore the lines are tightened and gradually the animal moves slowly and steadily to the land. His struggles to free himself are tremendous, but all in vain; struggling as a fish out of water, he is hopelessly in the power of his Lilliputian foes. The inhabitants for miles around crowd to the shore, singing and beating drums made of the hollow bole of a tree, over which is stretched the skin of a sea lion. As soon as the whale is brought beyond low water mark the work is done, and they have only to wait till the tide leaves it high and dry.

Abstemious on Sundays. The minimum penalty for serving drinks on Sunday in Western Australia is £50. A hotel-keeper in Perth, the metropolis, was recently mulcted in the sum of £150 for illegally refreshing a party of three on the Sabbath, the court refusing to regard the three drinks as constituting a single offense. Another curious feature of the licensing law in Western Australia is that the licensee must not absent himself from his house for more than twenty-eight days in the year, except by special permission of a stipendiary magistrate, a restriction on personal liberty that has long been the source of much irritation and indignation to the trade.

Steel Rails. A steel rail costs twice as much as an iron one, but the universal use of the former means millions to the farmers of the West. It has enabled railroads to use larger and heavier cars, and the results are cheaper freights and quicker transportation.

An Old Clay? The New England Historical Society is the possessor of a pipe used by General Jackson when he was President.

## STATE OF MICHIGAN.

### OCCURRENCES DURING THE PAST WEEK.

Michigan Fishermen May Get Into Trouble—Bad Burglars Captured Near Grand Rapids—Tragic Ending of a Practical Joke—\$16,000 Lost at Escanaba.

Were Looting the Enterprise. The Canadian steamer Enterprise, wrecked near North Point, had 27,000 bushels of wheat. Seven hundred bushels were saved, but the balance is under water. Fishermen and others in the vicinity, finding the wreck abandoned, commenced taking the wheat. About fifty persons were charged with taking from a few bushels to a hundred each. The matter is liable to be settled by the men paying for the wheat and custom duties. The thousands of bushels of wheat in the Enterprise will now remain in her till she breaks up. The wheat stored was only good for chicken feed, as it had begun to sprout. An offer of \$800 was made for the cargo when there was a prospect of saving a portion.

There is a Hunch.

The other morning burglars robbed the hardware store of C. H. Loomis and the jewelry store of George W. French, at Sparta, taking valuable cutlery, revolvers, etc., from the former and a lot of watches, etc., from the other place. The thieves escaped. Word was telephoned to Grand Rapids, and Deputy Sheriffs Carroll and Gast hitched up a fast team and started for Sparta. When near Anglinville they met three men who in the dim morning light looked suspicious characters and ordered them to halt. Two obeyed and the third ran, but stopped when a revolver shot came close to his head. All three were ordered to throw up their hands, and were promptly handcuffed and searched. The stolen property was all found on their person. The names of two of them are Dan Campbell and "Spai" Forbes, and the other is known by the sobriquet of "Slim." They are now in jail.

Joke Ends in Death.

Several boys played a joke on some companions at Jay Center that has resulted in the death of one of them. The plotters invited their victims to an orchard. Stolen fruit was eaten freely, and the joke was a success. A detached party of jokers rushed in from the side and opened fire with guns and revolvers. All the shots were fired in the air, but the frightened boys expected to be killed, and fled pell-mell in every direction. All escaped but Ferdinand Eichbrecht, aged 18, who stumbled over a log, fell into the millpond, and was drowned. Steps will be taken to punish the jokers.

Circus Train Nearly Wrecked.

Cook & Whitty's circus had a narrow escape from a disastrous wreck early Sunday morning near Au Sable. When the engine started, the section of twelve cars comprising the circus train was nearing the bridge over the Au Sable river at dawn he discovered a pile of ties laid across the rails and covered with sand. The evident plan was to throw the train into the river. The plot is laid against a number of men and boys who are said to have lost about \$500 to the gamblers following the circus. The engineer stopped his train just as the engine struck the ties.

A Panper No More.

The happiest man in the Wayne County house is George Sykes. Over six years ago, in the State of Iowa, while in the employ of Ringling Bros., circus, the team drawing the cage of lions became frightened, ran away, causing a stampede, and Mr. Sykes was permanently crippled. A tender-hearted Washtenaw County attorney took his case in hand, and while the circus was showing in Ypsilanti effected a settlement, resulting in the payment of attorney fees, a "wad of money" to Sykes and a privilege contract for life, including board, etc.

Hot Fire at Escanaba.

Escanaba was the scene of an expensive red hot fire Saturday morning. The total loss is estimated at \$16,000, as follows: Macdonald building, \$6,000; insurance, \$2,000. Dunn building, \$2,000; insurance, \$1,000. Van Dyke's furniture stock, \$8,000; insurance, \$400. Rothen's household furniture and saloon fixtures, \$8,000; insurance, \$700. The burnt buildings will not be replaced this fall and Van Dyke will not resume business. The fire is supposed to be of incendiary origin.

Record of the Week.

A LADY named Corwell, living at Burnside, Lapeer County, died from the effects of swallowing a peachstone. CROWELL is acknowledged to be the liveliest town in the thumb. The village recently bonded itself for \$50,000 for a system of water works, and now the citizens are howling for electric light.

The general store at Hamburg, which also contains the postoffice and express office, was burglarized and about \$25 worth of goods stolen. A number of letters were opened and some were taken.

FIRE at Orion destroyed eight business places, causing a loss of about \$5,000, which is partially covered by insurance. The fire started from some unknown cause in the livery stable of O. H. Green.

THE introduction of the water works system at Bad Axe has revived the interest in the fire department which was organized three years ago, but died for lack of support, and steps are being taken to reorganize it.

JAMES HARWOOD, an old man of about 80 years, who has been living at the Midland county house, has disappeared and no trace of him can be found. It is thought that he might have become demented and wandered away while in that condition.

THE business portion of Elmira was burned Thursday night. The fire started in the G. R. & I. shops. The largest loser is L. Z. Fecker. The total loss is hard to estimate, but it will be heavy. Many of the citizens are howling for electric light.

FIVE of the Michigan asylum cows at Kalamazoo have recently died and post-mortems showed that three died from tuberculosis. The herd was tested with tuberculin at an expense of \$300. It developed in one, and State Veterinarian Grange found that it was afflicted with tuberculosis.

ABOUT \$5,000 was paid to people in the vicinity of Grass Lake this season for huckleberries.

SOME men (?) tried to poison thirteen pigs belonging to a blarney citizen by mixing arsenic with their food. He did his work too well, however, putting in too much of the stuff, and thus saving their lives.

PINCENNING's band will have to get along for some time without the assistance of two of its members. The two young men who in a last will, and within an hour one day saw well both with and without, which disabled their right hands. One of them will lose two fingers.

The Ithaca public schools have nearly 500 pupils enrolled. A SLUG, seven feet tall was killed on Tawas Lake.

OVER fifty Grand Rapids boys will take work at the U. of M. this year.

QUITE a heavy frost occurred in the vicinity of Marshall Monday night.

SCARLET fever is so prevalent in Penn that the public school have been closed.

WILLIAM VANDOREN, a farmer living near Adrian, was killed by a railroad train.

MRS. C. W. COE, an aged and respected resident of Fenton, died Tuesday morning.

CITIZENS of Mio are talking of having their village incorporated when the Legislature meets.

THE Day Manufacturing Co., of Detroit, will remove to Milford, the village having voted a bonus of \$6,000.

R. J. CLARK, a Port Huron hardware merchant, has given a \$10,000 chattel mortgage to secure his creditors.

MARLETT shipped 15,000 pounds of beehood to New York last week, and the dealers whistle "Sweet Marlette."

THE Baptist Boys Brigade at Jackson have reorganized and elected officers under the name of the Hammond Guards.

"PIP" HARNEY, of Battle Creek, charged with attempting to rob and kill Jacob Johnson, has been located in Missouri.

REV. WILLIAM G. CLARKE, a young Chicago divine who is trying to rival Dr. Parkhurst in reforming towns, is a native of Adrian.

ONTONAGON has proved that she is water dry for 650 feet, so now will take to the beach bough and drive well system and get water or buy water from a professional rat-catcher from Philadelphia to clean them out.

CORUNNA people are developing a literary taste. This year they will have a lecture course and have already secured several lecturers of national reputation.

HENRY MORGAN, of Saginaw County, went to West Bay City and fell in with two strangers, who told him what a fine fellow he was, and then picked his pocket of \$5.

AMOS GARDNER, the man who was shot at Linwood, Bay County, is threatened with blood poisoning. The attending physician has little hope for his recovery.

OTTO PROUL, of Port Huron, will never chase a rat again. The animal ran up his trousers' leg, and it took twenty men to kill the rodent and calm the excited man.

THE Union Township Fair, which has been held at Mason Park, Cheesetown, has closed after a successful exhibition. There were over 1,300 entries in the various departments.

MRS. ORANGE WILLIAMS, of New Haven Township, Shiawassee County, dropped dead as she stood in her doorway. Heart disease was the cause. She leaves a husband and one child.

CHESPEYAN ladies advertised an entertainment on the street cars, for ladies only. A farmer thought this referred to driving on the cars, and walked two miles rather than seem intrusive.

THE hand of Bert Cooper, of Maple Grove, was blown off by a burning gun as an arkward. Cooper, who was in the midst of a crowd, but no one else was injured, although twelve feet of siding was torn off the house.

A BEAR LAKE cow got lost and was gone thirteen days and nights. When found she was fast in the top of a fallen tree, where she could get nothing to eat or drink, but she was still alive. How she got into the tree is a mystery.

S. J. ROUSE, an Owasco delivery man, almost forgot he owned a lot of land in Kenton, which he had regarded it as almost worthless. The tax collector now writes him that he owns 30,000 acres, valued at \$1 an acre, but the land is likely to be worth \$100 an acre before long, as it is heavily timbered.

ABOUT a month ago a saw was missed from the machine shop at Ionia prison. Well an inmate was suspected, and last week the saw was found with him and a pal named Flatten. They have been plotting to gain liberty a long time, but are now in solitary on bread and water. The saw will cut a steel bar off like a much used.

JESSE GORNON, of the Soo, had the prettiest and most successful ever saw, but she hadn't worn the stone two days before bad luck overtook her. Her pet poodle's tail was chewed off by a big rat, she lost her black cat, and old friends became enemies. Then, for the first time, she was suspected of opal superstition. She closed her right eye, approached the river cautiously, and threw the gem over her left shoulder into the water. The very next day she drew \$50 in cash as a prize offered by a jeweler.

"PINGREE's potato patch" was the object of much derision at Detroit when the mayor of that city first broached his plan of planting the vacant lots to potatoes, for the benefit of the poor. But it turns out to have been an almighty good thing. Over 15,000 bushels have been raised worth \$3,000, and the cost was about \$2,500. So successful has been the plan that there is now serious talk of making it permanent and putting the work in charge of a regular city department to be created especially for that purpose. It is proposed that the city purchase about 2,000 acres of good land in the suburbs and keep it for the express purpose of dividing it by allotment among the poor every spring. Then, instead of paying out to each pauper family \$1 a month, as the poor department is now doing, the city would start the family with a capital of \$2 worth of seed potatoes, and induce them to raise their own supply for the winter.

THE coroner's jury, on the death of Charles J. Pease, who was found in the St. Joseph River at St. Joseph, rendered a verdict that he came to his death by drowning, cause unknown. Foul play is suspected and an investigation will be made by the authorities.

At Ann Arbor James Benson was arrested for being drunk on the streets. Shortly afterward a dispatch arrived from Grass Lake, describing him and asking that he be held for forgery of a check for \$16. He bought a handsome filled case ladies' watch at a local jeweler's.

G. W. TEMPLEN, a Romulus farmer, caught a chap removing a scuppernion from his own. The fellow had, paying no attention to pistol shots, but was finally captured, giving the name of Louis Krupski. Other property of Templen's was found in Krupski's wagon.

THOMAS KENNY, of one City, has just returned from a visit in Ireland that proved rather disappointing. He left the country 52 years ago. This year he failed to find a single person he knew. The village in which he lived was then owned by forty families, now it is owned by one. He reached New York he was robbed of what money he had left and a gold watch.

ELECTRICITY.  
More Marvelous Than Steam in the Industrial World.

Large results are produced by the employment of great forces. In early days, as in Egypt and in Rome, the only great force at command was a large number of men working as slaves. Our modern civilization may be said to be based upon steam, but is not steam soon to be displaced by the new force, electricity? While little more than a portent now, it will condition the progress of civilization during the new century so near at hand. It is more in the nature of a logical deduction than of a prophecy that we outline the possibilities and probabilities of this mysterious force within the coming decade. The human family are soon to come into possession of conveniences of which they have scarcely dreamed. The present trolley system for operating street cars is certain to give way to some conduit plan or to improved storage batteries, thus removing unsightly poles and wires from streets. All telephone and telegraph wires within city limits, if wires are needed at all, will be laid underground. Incandescent lamps now in use will be laid aside for greatly improved ones having no filaments, but which will glow by means of high frequency currents, or for devices placed in walls and ceilings, which will be made to diffuse plentiful light throughout our rooms. Small boats on lakes, in parks, and on rivers and canals, will be moved by electricity. Typewritten copy is now successfully transmitted to a distance by wire, and an entire page of a newspaper may soon be printed simultaneously in a hundred different cities, and slips so printed which describe the progress of a battle in Korea may be delivered to us hourly.

The electric transmission of power will be rapidly extended, and for this purpose distant mountain streams and water falls will be utilized. Coal, too, will be burned at the coal mines, thus saving the cost of transporting that bulky fuel, and its energy will appear in heat and power in homes hundreds of miles distant. By the year 1900 electric street and suburban railway traction will have taken the place of all other forms of traction. Telephoning around the world will soon be an easy matter. Already our long distance telephones have brought half of our country's population within speaking distance. Any man in St. Paul can now hold a conversation with any man in Boston. The writer has talked over wire in which the extension was such that to overcome it would be equivalent to talking by telephone with a friend in Constantinople, and the voices could be distinctly heard. Not only such conversations be easy, but, in all probability, distant conditions will be accurately reproduced, and we shall be able to see our friends face to face while conversing with them. We will be able soon to inspect goods in New York, examine a farm in the State of Washington, read a book in Boston, listen to a sermon in New Orleans, seeing the clergyman and the congregation, hear an opera in Baltimore, and all this while you wait," and are comfortably seated in a room in Chicago.

Electric heating, though costly now, will soon be so cheapened as to be brought into quite general use. The convenience of such heat for homes and for cars is at once apparent. From any desired point, as his sleeping room, a man, by proper direction to his wife about buttons and switches, can turn such heat upon any portion of his house, light a fire in his kitchen range, or have all this attended to by clock-work. He can be awakened at any hour by a shock, and can have his house lighting so arranged that he can illumine any room in it from his bed, or, on coming home from the theater, he can light the lamps before entering the house. Electric motors will come into general use, and in place of our present costly shafting, pulleys and belting, wires will connect our 1,040 machines with dynamos, and in order to use any machine the operative will simply have to turn a switch or press a button, thus using only the power his work calls for. Should a method be devised of getting electricity directly from heat, a possibility, no doubt, a revolution in mechanical industry will be inaugurated whose benefits to the human race would be beyond calculation. We may also be able to transmit our thoughts and feelings to distant friends. We rely only at the dawn of the age of electricity, and its marvels are to come.—Fullman Journal.

## THE WINE INDUSTRY.

Some Figures on the Products of European Vineyards.

Viticulture in this country represents only about one-twentieth of the product of France or Italy. France leads in quantity produced, and Italy in area of vineyards. The vintage of 1874 was the greatest ever known in France, the product exceeding 1,800,000,000 gallons, although fiercely attacked by the phylloxera. The yield declined rapidly, and has not risen to 100,000,000 in many years; yet rose last year to 1,125,000,000 gallons. In 1877, the acreage was 5,866,242; in 1892, 5,527,500; but yet seen an increase of about 25,000 acres occurred. There are no vineyards in the northern countries of Europe—the British Isles, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, and Belgium. A recent statistical statement credits Europe with 23,000,000 acres in vineyards, and all other parts of the world with 1,000,000 acres—a very round and doubtless uncertain estimate. The total area of Italian vineyards is placed at 8,666,000 acres. The average production of the past ten years, in millions of gallons, is thus stated: France, 681; Italy, 630; Spain, 662; Austria, Hungary, and Germany, 83; Portugal, 78; Russia, 72; Servia, 60; Bulgaria, 56; Turkey and Cyprus, 45; Roumania, 40; Greece, 31; Switzerland, 22.

The larger part of the product of the United States is on the Pacific coast, where alone the European vines will grow. On the Atlantic coast, by far the greater portion of the product comes from the vineyards of Western New York.

ADVERTISING to a well-stocked store, like rain to a thirsty plant, enlivens and leaves "silver drops" all around.







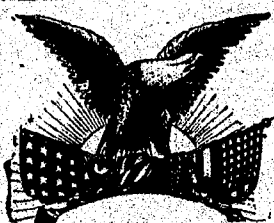
# The Avalanche.

O. PALMER, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR.

THURSDAY, OCT. 4, 1894.

Entered at the Post Office at Grayling, Mich., as second-class matter.

POLITICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.



## Republican State Ticket.

For Governor, JOHN T. RICH, of Lapeer County.

For Lieut. Gov., ALFRED MILNES, of Branch County.

For Sec. of State, W. GARDNER, of Jackson County.

For St. Treas., JAS. M. WILKINSON, of Roscommon County.

For Aud. Gen., STANLEY W. TURNER, of Roscommon County.

For Atty. Gen., FRED A. MAYNARD, of Kent County.

For Land Comm'r., WM. A. FRENCH, of Presque Isle County.

For Superintendent of Public Instruction, H. R. PATTERSON, of Ingham County.

For Member of Board of Education, W. E. WELLS, of Westland County.

## Congressional Ticket.

For Representative Tenth Congressional District, ROSSEAU O. CRUMP, of Bay.

## Senatorial Ticket.

For State Senator, 28th Sen. District, ALLAN G. PRESCOTT, of Iosco.

## Judicial Ticket.

For Circuit Judge, 34th Dist., NELSON SHARP, of Ogemaw.

## Republican County Convention.

The republican electors of Crawford county will meet in convention by delegates, at the Court House, in Grayling, on Saturday, October 6th, at 2 o'clock, p. m., for the purpose of nominating County Officers to be supported at the next election, and the election of a County Committee, and to attend to such other business as may come before the convention.

The several townships will be entitled to delegates as follows:

Maple Forest, 3 Grayling, 18

Frederic, 3 Ball, 12

Strove, 2 So. Branch, 2

Blaine, 2 Coa. Branch, 13

Beaver Creek, 3

JOHN STALEY, CHAIRMAN.

C. W. SMITH, Secretary.

The cuckoo organ still insist that Senator Gorman is the "Peck's Bad Boy" of this administration. There is more than one of them. —Det. Journal.

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder

World's Fair Highest Medal and Diploma.

The drouth in Maine did not effect the largeness of the republican vote — nor will it in Michigan. Republicans are not made of the kind of timber that is affected by a short crop of grain or potatoes.

The New Castle (Pa.) Tin Plate Company has notified its men that, owing to the reduction in the tariff, there will be a reduction of 25 per cent in their wages. It was only in Wales that the tin-plate men rejoiced over the new tariff law. —Inter-Ocean.

Domestic competition in the manufacture of salt, built up by protection, lowered the price of salt to 55 cents or less a barrel at Saginaw, including the barrel, which is worth about 20 cents. When \$80 pounds of salt can be had for 55 cents, how much of a "robber" is protection?

From a speech of Congressman Joseph D. Sayers of Texas:

"We have taken \$11,000,000 from the pensioners and, when congress meets in December next, we will take \$10,000,000 more off those fellows who came down here and murdered our people."

The average life of a printer is only about thirty-five years. This may not be an item of news to our readers but nevertheless it shows the necessity of prompt payment to the printer, so he can have the pleasure of handing his own funds during his short stay on this mundane sphere. —Ex.

The N. Y. World, (dem.) in referring to the election in Maine, says: "It is the World's habit to deal with election returns on the basis of hard arithmetic and cold facts, whatever may be their nature or significance. The truth in regard to Maine is that the republicans have won an unprecedented victory. It surpasses republican expectations and far exceeds democratic fears."

A result of the free-lumber clause of the new tariff bill was seen yesterday, when 4,000,000 feet of Canadian lumber was received in Bay City by E. T. Carrington. The shippers were the Spanish river lumber company, and the lumber was brought over on the barge Kathleen. This is the first consignment of Canadian lumber that ever came into this port. —Det. Journal.

A newspaper in Illinois recently brought suit against forty-three men who would not pay their subscription and obtained judgment in each case for the amount of each claim. Of these, twenty-eight made affidavit that they owned only what the law allows them, thus preventing attachment. Then under the decision of the supreme court they were arrested for petty larceny and bound over in the sum of \$300 each. All but six gave bonds. The new postal law makes it larceny to take a paper and refuse to pay for it.

A progressive advertiser is not content to simply hold his customers—he is constantly reaching out for new ones. The daily papers simply announce sales and remind customers who know all about you that you have not moved or sold out. It is the modest announcement in the small weekly journal that is constantly finding new customers for you and bringing gold to your till. No merchant who would succeed can afford to ignore the weekly paper in the suburban districts. The average life of a large weekly is 30 minutes, while the average life of a country weekly is seven days. —Ex.

The returns from Maine are all in, and the republican plurality for Governor Cleaves is 38,124. In 1892 eleven Democrats were elected to the Maine Senate. This year the Senate is solidly republican. Two years ago forty-four Democrats were elected to the lower branch of the Maine Legislature. The Democratic delegation in the present House will consist of four lone ones individuals, each of whom is wondering how he happened to escape the flood. Clevelandism is producing its natural result. It has reduced the Democratic vote in Maine from 55,397 to 30,640 and the Democratic representation among the State lawmakers to a quartet.

One of the handsomest specimens of illustrated printing we have seen for some time is a brochure from the presses of Rand, McNally & Co., called "Comfort in Travel." It is circulated by the passenger department of the Michigan Central Railroad Company as an advertisement of that road and the New York Central, but it is so attractive that every one reads it, whether he travels or not. These two roads are among the most prosperous in the country, and largely because they understand the value of printer's ink. The great increase of travel on these roads over those Eastern lines running south of New York State is remarkable, and it is due largely to the fact that their managers know the value of advertising, and study how to do it. —Chicago Inter Ocean.

President Havemeyer, of the American Sugar Refining Company, has issued orders for the closing down at once of one-half of the refineries under its control, and next week the rest of the refineries will be shut down. This action is taken because of the large amount of refined sugar on hand, and also because of the operation of the new tariff. Mr. Havemeyer said: "The operation of the new tariff law has already closed half the refineries of the country, throwing the men who worked in them out of employment, and it will probably close all the rest of them this week. This will mean putting at least 10,000 men out of work. The price of sugar is below the cost of production. For some time the company has been working the refineries at a considerable loss." —Inter-Ocean.

The Democratic papers that have been claiming that the McKinley bill did not create any tin plate industry in this country, should muzzle their British contemporaries or, at least see that they were properly instructed as to the Democratic claim, made in the interest of the English tin plate manufacturers as the following extract from the Liverpool correspondent of the Ironmonger, an English trade journal:

"The manufacture of tin plate in the United States had advanced by leaps and bounds in three years, since the McKinley act came in to operation, being sixteen times as great in the 12 months ending July 1894, as in a like period ending July, 1892, and nothing but keen competition will enable our South Wales friends to regain this lost trade and cause the American mills to be closed. It is to be hoped that if the masters find it necessary to make a reduction of wages, as one step toward cheaper and more economical cost of manufacture, that the men will submit with as good grace as may be, and that it may be settled amicably without one of those deplorable strikes which have been so common in this country recently, and which are so disastrous to masters and men alike. The tin plate men must see that they are a very highly paid body of men and that they cannot compete with other countries where labor is hardly more than half the price. Meanwhile we hope for the best, and it really does seem as if a brighter day has dawned on this market than we have seen for at least three years past."

The history of forage and manure plants is a most interesting study, and of especial value to those who are interested in the reclamation and development of the vast area of "Plains Land" in the northern section of the lower peninsula of Michigan.

On the establishment of the sub-experiment station, at Grayling, by the State Board of Agriculture, the first question presented itself was, "If any, what class of, or individual plant, would restore this light soil, from which all vegetable mold or humus had been removed by successive fires, to a fertile condition?" Scores of plants have been introduced for the attempted solution of this problem, but it is the province of this article to notice but the single one, Spurry.

Prof. B. C. Kedzie had made a thorough analysis of the soil of the Jack Pine land from different localities, and therefore had definite knowledge of its requirements, and of the several selections made for the experiments proposed. Spurry was given a first place, and experience has proven that it was right. The first seed was obtained from Germany, through the reliable house of Thorburn & Co., of New York, since which time the seed has been secured from the crops sown here.

This plant, of the genus Spargelia, is used in many parts of Germany as a forage plant, and more often as a manure plant for the reclamation of Shore sands or of worn out land. Its chemical analysis shows: Water, 7.32; organic matter, 83.18; ash, 0.60; albuminoids, 10.26; carbohydrates, 43.97; crude fiber, 25.05; fat 3.80.

The tendency of all the grasses natural to this section of light soil, is to grow in bunches, instead of forming an even sward, and this is true of nearly every plant introduced in the line of experiment. Spurry was a grand exception to the rule. Every seed seemed to germinate, and the fields presented a perfectly even growth of this tiny like plant, so thoroughly entwined that in walking through it, the foot had to be lifted entirely over it, or sufficient force used to break the way for each succeeding step. Its average growth has been from 12 to 14 inches in height, on the natural soil, but reaching over 2 feet on some of the surrounding farms that had been enriched to a greater or less extent, and cutting from one to two tons of forage per acre, except that the extreme drouth of the present year reduced the average about one half. When ripe there is at the end of each spike a seed pod about the size of a No. 6 shot, each containing 6 or 8 seeds, so that the yield of seed is from 8 to 12 bushels per acre. The growing crop forms excellent pasturage for cattle, though they often refuse it at first, but after once eating it, will leave a clover field for it. Sheep seem to prefer it above all forage, and all stock thrive upon it, when cut and cured, even eating every particle of the dry straw that has been threshed, after ripening. The introduction of Spurry to this section as a forage crop alone, will prove of immense benefit, but its use as a manure crop is of much greater value. Its effect on the physical condition of the soil is so marked as to be almost beyond belief. The soil in its natural state is so porous that in passing over a plowed field one sinks into it as in a heap of dry ashes, but after plowing under a single crop of Spurry, the land becomes so compact that the difference would be noticed by the least careful observer, and its effect on succeeding crop are so marked, in comparison with the same crop succeeding any other plants used. This may be in part due to the changed condition of the soil giving a more compact seed bed, and enabling the new plant to better resist drouth. The Spurry itself seems specially adapted to dry soils, doing even better than where there is an excess of moisture. As before remarked there is a tendency for all grasses to grow in bunches, in this soil, and it is true of each here mentioned, but the condition is so changed after a crop of Spurry has been plowed under that this difficulty is removed, and there now plants of the following grasses very even in growth and forming a uniform sward. Viz: Timothy and Clover; Timothy and Red Top; Tall Meadow Oat Grass; Red Fescue; Meadow Fescue; Sheep's Fescue and Alsike Clover.

There has not been sufficient time, nor extended experiment enough to state definitely the relative increased production, following Spurry, but I am satisfied that it is far superior on these lands, to any other manure plant that has been used, and in an experiment on an adjoining farm, more wheat was produced, following Spurry, than where 300 pounds of Commercial fertilizer was used per acre.

I believe the results already obtained by the introduction of this plant, will much more than repay all the outlay that has been had at this station, leaving the many other valuable results in favor of the continued work I imagine that the work of this station is but just begun, and that its future will develop more financial good to this State than perhaps any work now in progress. The words of Prof. Kedzie in concluding his third report may well be repeated and emphasized.

"The problem of the Plains is a complex one, involving consideration of climate as well as constitution of soil. The problem is not yet solved. It is worthy of further efforts at its solution—patient conscientious and thorough work to find the truth."

O. PALMER.

General Wm. Shakespeare, a life long democrat, of Kalamazoo, of the Gen. Dan. Sickles stripe, one who believes that the Union veterans deserve respectful treatment. Like Sickles he has not been in sympathy with this Union bating administration, and has not hesitated to speak openly of his contempt of the treatment accorded the gallant boys in blue by the Confederate secretary of the Interior, Hoke Smith, and Commissioner Loshren. As a result he got himself in bad odor with the pension department of this reform administration and in consequence has been called upon to give his reasons why his pension should not be reduced. He will fight the rebel sympathizers to the end. —Cheboygan Tribune.

Closing his speech against the income tax in the Senate on the 9th of last April, Senator Hill said:

"Let those who insist upon injecting into this bill this odious and undemocratic feature of an income tax—a relic of war legislation—pause and reflect upon the possible consequences of their unwarrantable demands. They should realize that it means the loss of the control of this Senate, now nearly equally divided between the two great parties; it means the loss of the house of Representatives; it means the loss of the electoral vote of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and probably every Northern State; and finally it means the loss of the next presidency, and all that it implies. They should recollect that this income tax feature is justly regarded in New York and many other Northern States as a scheme of spoliation, an unwarranted sectional attack upon their citizens of means."

The Republican committee throughout the country would do well to circulate as a campaign document the speech of Hon. Tom L. Johnson, Democratic Congressman from Ohio, on the tariff surrender. He tells the story of that shameful event in terms of peculiar candor and vigor. It was not merely a surrender of the House to the Senate, he says, but "a surrender of the clearly declared will of the people to a gigantic organization of bondholders, engineered and managed by the boss bondholder of the nation." All the trusts were liberally provided for in the bill, he goes on to assert, while a tax was put upon the sugar of the people and upon the incomes of business men and employers of labor. In this respect, he points out, it is from a Democratic standpoint much worse than the McKinley law, although it makes wool free. "No human being eats wool," he says, "or uses it in any way until it has been manufactured, and the manufacturers of wools are still carefully protected by a relatively higher tariff than the McKinley law gave them; but every man, woman and child uses sugar, and there is not a housewife in the land who will not feel that she is robbed by our Democratic tariff reform when she pays as much for three pounds of sugar as she paid for three under the McKinley act." —Globe Dem.

## Foreclosure of Mortgage.

WHEREAS, on the 24th day of June, A. D. 1893, Ella A. Glenn, of Jackson County, State of Michigan, for the purpose of securing to herself and her heirs, assigns, and assigns, the payment of the sum of Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00) with interest thereon at the rate of six per cent per annum, payable semi-annually, she executed and delivered to the said Ella A. Glenn, her heirs, assigns, and assigns, a certain tract of land situated in Crawford County, State of Michigan, and more particularly described as follows: The West one-half of the South-east quarter of section Twenty-eight, Township Twenty-five, North of Range Two West, containing thirty acres more or less according to government survey, which mortgage was recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for said Crawford County, State of Michigan, on the 30th day of July, A. D. 1893, in Liber D of Mortgages, on page 48, and that on the 7th day of October, A. D. 1893, said Ella A. 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# The Avalanche

O. PALMER, Publisher.  
FRAYLING, MICHIGAN.

## WORK IS HARD TO GET

HOW EMPLOYMENT EVADED ONE WHO SOUGHT IT.

Traveling Fifty Thousand Miles Looking for Labor—From the Mississippi to the Pacific and Then to the Atlantic—in a "Side-door" Pullman.

Tale of a Traveler.  
It is a wide country, but a man seeking work may apply for it in every town in the United States between Bangor and Benicia and not find it, says a writer in a Chicago



RAISES THE PIR SIGN.

paper. Of course, employment may be found at once, but the chances are the other way. Herewith is given a specimen case. A railroader reached Chicago four days ago without money enough to pay for a meal. The stranger had been working in one of the railroad yards at East St. Louis until the hard times of '93 had thrown him out of work, and since that time had been, to use a phrase common among railroad men, "jumping sideways" all over the country.

He was educated and intelligent, and had kept his eyes open during his trips. In search of, as he termed it, "an office," he carried a very creditable letter of recommendation from Chesapeake and Ohio officials for a long term of service on the trains and in the yards of that railroad. In the story he told are many points of interest, chief of which is the fact that since he started on his so far fruitless search for work he has been in every State and Territory in the United States, has compassed a journey of 50,000 miles by rail on a capital so slender that it would have given a professional tramp the blues. Here is his story in his own words:

"I lost my job in East St. Louis a year ago last June through a little law trouble. I fought the case because it was an endeavor made by a 'shark' lawyer to steal my wages, but in the end I lost both the law case and the job. I succeeded in proving to the superintendent the fact that I was right in fighting the case, and he recalled the order for my discharge, but I found out that my reinstatement meant the laying off of a man who had a family, so I told him to keep the job. I could bustle for one easier than he could for a half-dozen, and I thought if I tried I could find a job somewhere. Now I believe that I overestimated my ability as a hustler, for, while I have had clothes to wear and have staved off starvation, I am still 'short' on the job.

"I had sunk my small capital in getting my experience of the law as she is writ, and had it not been for a friend I would have left the 'queen city of Egypt' broke. The friend lent me \$5, however, and I started West.

"I tried Kansas City, but it was full of railroad men waiting for business to pick up, so I kept on west to Denver. There were no signs of any improvement there, but the boys said: 'Keep on west; you'll catch on in the mountains sure.' So I decided to keep on. I went up to Cheyenne and got there at midnight, put up my last 'half' for lodging and breakfast and in the morning hit the superintendent for my job, but was told there were enough idle railroad men in Cheyenne to stock the division. I was just a little blue. It was a toss-up for which way to go, so I struck out for the west coast."

Surprise was expressed at his undertaking such a journey under such conditions. The railroader laughed and said: "It is no trouble to do



IN A NEW ENGLAND HAY FIELD.

that in the west if you belong to anything. As far as traveling is concerned the local lodges of the railroad organizations all have contracts with the companies that, in addition to fixing the rate of pay, provide for the transportation of brothers who may be traveling looking for work. The west is almost perfectly organized, and a man will hardly get into a town before he is 'flagged' (giving the halting sign) by some of the boys, and they never let him go hungry.

Hoist the Pir Sign.  
If they are a little slow and the distance between meals gets too long for comfort the stranger can hoist the 'pir sign' (distress signal), and if

there is a brother in the crowd it brings him forward.  
"From Cheyenne I went to Ogden, Utah, where I struck the Central Pacific, and over that straight to the Golden Gate. I found from the trainmen I rode with that there was no show for work on any of the divisions on the way, so I kept right along. Sacramento, Oakland and San Francisco were as bad as any of the places I had been in. The railroad men were hanging together and hoping for better times, but it was trying business, as most of the men at work, and they were few enough, were holding up from one to three idle brothers, hoping that in the near future business might revive and there be work enough for all. I saw plainly there was no use staying in any of these places, so I went down to Los Angeles on the Southern Pacific. The conditions there were no better. Railroad business in the West was completely paralyzed. I couldn't go any further west, so I started back east over the Southern Pacific, eventually landing in New Orleans after having interviewed every superintendent and trainmaster between the two points on the subject of work.

"I came up over the Louisville & Nashville to Cincinnati, and from there made side trips into Kentucky, West Virginia, and Ohio, to points where I thought there might be work, but it was 'no go,' and I was getting awfully tired traveling in the way I had for the last three months. I started out over the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton, intending to go through to Toledo, but at Hamilton, O., I ran across an old friend, and I stopped off to see him. I told him my story, and he laid off a few days to let me make a 'stake.' I worked two weeks, and with the proceeds got me a cheap suit of clothes and a pair of shoes, but I was broke again when I started for Toledo.

"There was no chance for work there, so I went to Detroit, from there to Saginaw, and from the latter place up through Northern Michigan, across the Soo, and after a trip across Wisconsin arrived in St. Paul. I could find no encouragement either in St. Paul or Minneapolis, and just because I did not know which way to go I started west again over the Northern Pacific.

"I tried Seattle, Tacoma, and Portland, Ore., but the search was in vain. The winter had set in, and the unemployed were almost starving



NEGOTIATIONS FOR CLOTHES.

and freezing to death in the big cities. In San Francisco I saw men wearing the insignia of the railroad orders working on the streets. They would have been glad to get away from the coast, but they had families and could not raise the money to move them; neither could they let their dear ones starve.

"I tried Los Angeles again, but it was worse than before; so I started out over the Santa Fe to Kansas City.

"I steered clear of Chicago, because almost every day I met squads of travelers, who, like myself, were railroad men, and they all said the city was overrun with unemployed men.

"I got to Kansas City in January and the people of that good city were on a continual bustle to keep their own unemployed from starving. I stayed one day with a friend and the next started over the Kansas City, Memphis and Birmingham for Birmingham, Ala., determined to try the Eastern South. I did try it. I went over Alabama, Florida, and Georgia like a deputy marshal with a search warrant, and at last in March struck what looked like a regular job in the yards of the Georgia Southern and Florida Railway at Macon, Ga. They were handling an immense traffic in early vegetables. The job lasted twenty-three days; then came the worst freeze that country had ever experienced at that season of the year, and the vegetable trade was nil—like wise my job.

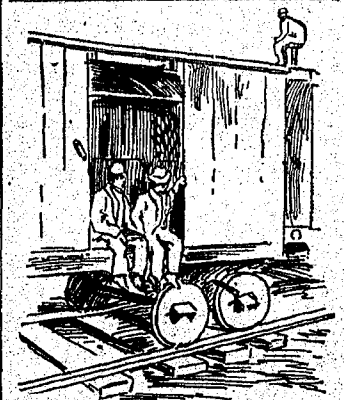
"I sagged up, got another suit of clothes, and started again. I went to Atlanta, and from there to Norfolk, Va., across North and South Carolina. From Norfolk to Newport News, and from there to Washington by way of Richmond. From Washington I went to Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, and Boston, staying a few days in each place, but not long enough to affiliate with any of the 'commonwealth' armies that were tramping over that country then.

In New England Hay Fields.  
"From Boston I went all over the New England States, but with the single exception of a week in a hay field near Boston, couldn't find a thing to do.

"The railroad men in the Eastern States are a 'cold' lot, mostly natives who have never been outside the State. They were born in, and who look on a traveling railroad man as they do a common tramp. I nearly starved out there, and you can tell all inquirers I'll never go East again.

"The night I started from Boston there were two 'brotherhood' engineers and an O. R. C. man (Order Railway Conductors), who had been trying all day to get out over the 'Fitchburg' railway. We all wanted to come West, and we finally got out,

but it was in a side-door Pullman—a box car.  
"We got through to Rotterdam Junction, New York, and from there over the New York Central to Buffalo, where I left them and went through Western Pennsylvania to Pittsburgh, but that city was no



THE SIDE-DOOR PULLMAN.

good, so I came on here over the Panhandle.

"I started a year ago last June, and since then have been in every State and Territory of Uncle Sam's domain. I have ridden over somewhere near 200 railroads, have made applications for work in the offices of over 600 superintendents and trainmasters, and if I could have traveled in one direction all the time I would now have been fairly started on my third lap around the globe. I have tried to keep clean and so far I haven't starved, though I shudder to think of the many meals I have 'run by,' and I have not slept in a bed for over two months now; haven't had my clothes off only when I could strike a river where I could take a bath. In my riding part of it has been on passes, part on 'card' or letters, and in a few instances, through the East, a box car."

### Curious Census Lessons.

Slowly the public is getting some intelligible ideas from the census compilation of four years ago. The clerks have at last figured out that there were then just 7,992,973 "home families" in the United States, which means probably that there were that many groups of persons living together. Of these almost five-eighths—



NEGOTIATIONS FOR CLOTHES.

and freezing to death in the big cities. In San Francisco I saw men wearing the insignia of the railroad orders working on the streets. They would have been glad to get away from the coast, but they had families and could not raise the money to move them; neither could they let their dear ones starve.

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## MURDERER CASEY'S DOVE

A Snow-White Bird That Had an Affection for Bad Men.

"I can recall a strange incident that has never found its way into print," said a member of the New York congressional delegation. "It happened in Long Island, in the Queens County Jail, and to say the least, is tinged with strangeness. Patrick Casey, a Long Island City policeman, was an inmate of the jail, under the sentence of death for the deliberate murder of Sergt. Cumsky. The present representative in Congress from the First Congressional District, New York, James W. Covert, was Casey's counsel, and succeeded in having the sentence commuted to imprisonment for life. On the day Casey was sentenced to death, a pure-white dove flew in the courtroom window and alighted on his shoulder.

"The dove refused to be moved, accompanied Casey back to his cell, and became his constant companion. At the same time Charles Rugg, the notorious negro murderer, was also an inmate of the jail, awaiting trial for the murder of Mrs. Lydia Maybee and her daughter. Just previous to the day set for his trial Rugg escaped from the jail, but two days later was captured and returned to the jail. The day of his capture was the day set for Casey's removal to Sing Sing to serve out his life sentence. As he was being taken from the jail and while in the sheriff's office being prepared for his journey Rugg was led by his captors. All this time the dove had been perched on Casey's shoulder, but as soon as Rugg was led in the dove flew from Casey's shoulder over to Rugg's, alighting on his shoulder, cooing as if it had found a long-lost friend.

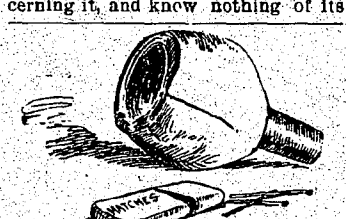
"All efforts on the part of Casey to call it back again were in vain, and as Rugg was led back to the cell from which he escaped the dove went with him. It remained with him up to the morning of the execution. On that morning, as Rugg marched up to the scaffold, the dove was perched on his shoulder and remained there until the black cap was drawn over his face. As soon as that was done the dove flew out of one of the jail windows, and was never seen around the jail again."

### RARE RELIC FOUND.

Pipe of Onyx Once Smoked by a Cave Dweller in Utah.

This pipe was found in San Juan County, Utah, during recent explorations of the caves and cliff houses of Utah and Arizona. It was incased in a neatly tanned deer skin, which served as a pouch. This is a remarkable material, which consists of the inner bark of the red willow and leaves of the kinikinnick plant, both of which grow in great abundance in the canyons of southern Utah. The bowl is egg-shaped, being 1 1/2 inches in diameter and 2 1/2 inches long, is composed of Mexican onyx, and highly polished. The cavity of the bowl is lined with a black mineral cement and contains the ashes of the last puff the smoker enjoyed. The stem is 3/4 of an inch in diameter and 13 inches in length, and is composed of jet highly polished and cemented to the bowl with pinon gum.

The pipe was excavated from a depth of four feet beside the head of a remarkably well-preserved mummy. The pipe was undoubtedly his property during life. How it was used is a mystery, as the lips of the smoker and the hot ashes in the bowl would come into close contact, and his mouth would seemingly be burned. It is evident that the pipe had to be held in an upright position while being used. The Navajo Indians, who once occupied the country where this pipe was found, are unable to give any information concerning it, and knew nothing of its



CAVE-DWELLER'S PIPE AND POUCH.

history or origin. This remarkable specimen is now on exhibition in the archaeological collection in the State University of Utah.

### EMPRESS OF JAPAN.

An Interesting Little Personage the Only Wife of the Mikado.

An interesting little personage is the Empress of Japan, who is the only wife of the Mikado, though many imagine he has a dozen or more.

The Empress is 41 years of age, one year younger than her husband. She is not so tall as American women; is slender and very straight. For the last sixteen years she has worn European dress. She is very fair, with rosy cheeks, large eyes, and a finely shaped mouth. Even without her imperial rank she would be the universally acknowledged belle of Japan. She is immensely interested in the education of the gentler sex and in charitable works of all kinds. She is a fine scholar of both polite literature and music, and plays the piano well. Her poems have been set to music and used as imperial songs. She is the founder of the Red Cross Society in Japan, frequently visits the hospitals, and gives to each patient as much consolation and care as if she were a simple white-capped nurse of the Red Cross.

### Snail Eating.

We shall never, in all likelihood, grow to share the French taste for edible snail, though the big escargot is common enough in many parts of England, where tradition says they were introduced by the Romans, and still live on round the sites of their villas. The escargot is really at its best when taken in the vineyards at the end of March and the beginning of April. They live on the shoots of the vines, and during the winter bury themselves in the ground, during which time, like the snails hung up to air in haddis, they are purged of

all gross humors before they return to enjoy themselves in the Elysian fields in spring.

Cooking the snails is not an easy matter. They are drawn from the shell, which is then carefully scrubbed and washed. Their heads are cut off, and they are well soaked in salt and water, then returned to the shell, which is stopped with parsley batter and laid to simmer in a hot dish over the fire. An enthusiast sent the writer some escargots, taken at the right season, from his vineyard in Burgundy, with a few bottles of red and white wine (Corton) made from the juice of the grapes from the vines on which they had fed, in order, as he said, that "the snails when eaten might aid themselves on pays de connaissance." The combination was excellent, and, though there may be two opinions about the flavor of the escargot, there is no doubt that both in taste and substance it is an edible unlike any other known. The Wiltshire people, especially the population of Swindon, eat the large garden snails as a common dainty.—The Spectator.

### NOW SHE WEARS SOCKS.

The Latest Fad in France—Long Stockings Given Away.

The latest danger which woman's relentless foe threatens her is the sock. In Paris, according to a high fashioned authority who has recently



SOCKS FOR LITTLE ONES.

returned from there, the long stocking is doomed. Every one wears socks. Boys and girls in short trousers and skirts display a waste of pink flesh between the top of the sock and the bottom of their garments. There is, of course, not this same display in the case of the grown-up wearers of the sock, but there are sufficient other disadvantages to make up for this.

The agonies of the woman who is wearing these things for the first time are untold. If, in a moment of absorption in other things she forgets the fact that she has discarded stockings, she is promptly recalled to a sense of her loss by the keen discomfort of her feelings. She cannot, for an instant, remember what is the



THE TROUBLE THING.

matter with her and the sickening conviction that her garter has slipped is the first explanation that occurs to her. Then she remembers and her horror passes, but the discomfort remains.

Of course, socks are chilly. Of course, they make the wearer keenly uncomfortable. She dreads a windy day as she would a deluge. A step to carriage or from a train assumes a proportion which horrifies her. But she has the gratifying consciousness that she is wearing what fashion demands, and that is sufficient to sustain most women in almost any emergency.

### Starting Visitor.

A case of ball lightning has been observed in the Oderberg postoffice, Prussia. During a violent thunderstorm a telegraph post about 1,000 yards from the office was struck by lightning, and at this moment three clerks round a table in the office saw a few inches above the table, a ball of fire as large as a man's fist, of blinding brilliance, which immediately exploded with a loud crack, but did no damage. One observer said that the ball descended from the ceiling and rebounded from the table.

The value of the timber annually destroyed by fire on this continent is estimated at from \$20,000,000 to \$30,000,000. In the alchemy of nature nothing can be lost, and in distant epochs or eons, this may be recovered; but practically it wipes out that amount of wealth from the world with no compensation. Cut down and worked into the thousand utilities for man's comfort and convenience, or to keep him warm, cook his food and run his machinery, its original value, by means of his skill, is returned to him fourfold; but to be burned up in the heat of summer, with nothing to show but a heap of ashes, and to carry with it houses, farms, implements, crops and even the very soil, which it renders unproductive, is, humanly speaking, an absolute loss. Were it not destroyed it would shelter, or warm thousands of human beings, and administer in scores of ways to their varied wants. In consequence of this destruction, sooner or later they must give more of their labor to securing the shelter, warmth, fuel and the like which these abolished forests would have furnished them. Apart, therefore, from the indirect losses caused by alternate flood and drought, which the loss of timber aggravates, there is a direct and remediless wiping out of so much natural wealth in a highly available form. Europe has so learned the lesson of the value of timber that Germany at least expends a large sum annually in preserving its forests by strict watching, scientific culture and careful cutting. They have discovered that the people cannot afford the loss of valuable timber and that the expense of preserving it is a very small percentage of the gain.

HARSHEN BRECHER STOWE should not be held personally responsible for the numerous "Uncle Tom" companies now devastating the country.

## THE SCIENCE OF CURVES.

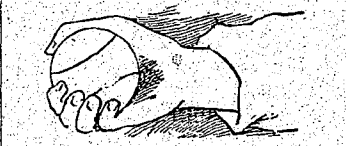
Which All Pitchers Must Master to Be of Use to Their Teams.

It is pretty generally admitted that the pitcher is the most important player on the team, says the New York World. To be a good pitcher requires not only perfect control of the ball in all methods of its straight delivery, but the ability to toss it in puzzling curves which lead to so many strikeouts.

Arthur Cummings, of the old Star team, the outcurve of Brooklyn, was the first ball player to make practical use of the curves. He experimented and practiced for a long time before he could explain the apparent anomaly of a ball thrown from the hand changing its direction horizontally during the course of its flight. Scientists have found many theories tried to explain why this is so. The one generally accepted as correct is simple. If one side of a ball can be made to pass through the air with greater rapidity than the other side there is greater friction produced by the atmosphere on the side moving most rapidly. This retarding effect drags the ball to one side and produces the so-called curve. To curve a ball, therefore, it is only necessary to make one side travel faster than the other. This is accomplished by twisting the hand sharply at the moment of delivery, allowing the ball to roll off the fingers instead of being released from all points at the same moment.

To produce the in-curve grasp the ball firmly between the thumb and first two fingers, the remaining fingers being doubled in the hand. Throw the ball at a height equal to the shoulder. At the instant of release twist the fingers sharply toward the body, allowing the ball to roll off their ends. The firm hold on the ball in throwing this "shoot" permits both greater speed and greater accuracy than in almost any other delivery.

For the out-curve secure the ball in the hand by pressing it firmly between the fingers and base of the thumb. In delivering the ball to the batsman throw the arm forward midway between the shoulder and waist, the palm of the hand up. At the moment of releasing the ball turn or twist the hand quickly to the left, allowing the ball to roll off the side of the first finger. Although this is the easiest of all curves to pitch, it is the most difficult to control. Only practice will make perfect in this. As great speed as possible should be used, for a swift ball changing direction only a few feet from the batsman is much more difficult to hit than one traveling slowly and curving half a dozen yards from the home plate. For an up-shoot the ball is grasped in the same manner as for the in-curve. In throwing, however, the hand is brought down palm



POSITION FOR OUT-CURVE.

forward, perpendicularly in front of the body, the ball rolling off the end of the fingers as the hand is twisted suddenly downward.

Very few but professional players every master the drop curve. Almost all amateurs throw instead the "out-drop," which, as its name indicates, is a curve half way between the out and the drop. This is not at all difficult to pitch. The ball is grasped



POSITION FOR IN-CURVE.

as for the out-curve, but in throwing the hand passes diagonally across the body from a little above the right shoulder to about the height of the belt on the left side. The ball is released when directly in front of the home plate.

### New Marine Device.

In heavy weather a steam tug will sometimes lose its tow, a sudden strain on the hawser breaking the same, and the sea being too rough to make it practicable to get a new line to the liberated craft. In order to lessen that danger several American tow boats have adopted a device called the Shaw & Spiegel towing machine. Its essential feature is an elastic steam cushion. The hawser is made fast to a drum, which unwinds a little when the strain abruptly increases, but this operation applies more steam to the drum, which then meets the strain and stops revolving. If the pull lessens the drum automatically takes up the slack.

### Aquatic Spiders.

The "raft spider," found in Terra del Fuego, is a most extraordinary insect. It derives its name from the fact that it constructs a raft of matted leaves and pieces of wood, which it uses to pursue its prey on the water. Raft spiders travel in fours. They make their cars out of twigs and generally row a thirty-two stroke, although they have been known at times to increase the speed to thirty-six.

### The Busy Bee.

The bee works harder than most people would believe. There are about sixty flower tubes in every head of clover, and only a tiny morsel of honey in each. In order to get enough sugar for a load, the bee must visit about 6,000 different flowers, and each bee must make, on an average, twenty trips a day.

### He Made a Rainbow.

Prof. Tyndall is said to have been the first man to ever attempt to produce an artificial rainbow—this in 1853.

## HUMOR OF THE WEEK

STORIES TOLD BY FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Many Odd, Curious, and Laughable Phases of Human Nature Graphically Portrayed by Eminent Word Artists of Our Own Day—A Budget of Fun.

Sprinkles of Sp'ee.  
A MILD REBUKE.—He—"How many conquests have you made this summer?" She—"I never talk shop."—Harper's Bazar.

"Don't you think Binkies has a very breezy manner?" "If you refer to the delight he takes in airing his opinions, I do."—Washington Star.

"That organ-grinder left out a portion of the tune." "That's all right. We've none. The dime I gave him had a hole in it."—Washington Star.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHER.—What is charity? Boy.—It's a feeling folks used to have before tramps got so thick.—Good News.

"I was not aware that you knew him," said Tom Snack to an Irish friend the other day. "Knew him?" he exclaimed. "I knew him when his father was a boy."—Tid-Bits.

EXCORSESS.—"I wonder if it is true that the Browns are keeping two servants instead of one." "I guess so. I don't see Mrs. Brown go out any more."—Truth.

AT A PATZ-SHOOTING.—Rifeman (after repeated misses).—"Donner wetter! If those rascally fellows haven't gone and stuck up the target in the wrong place again."—Unsere Gesellschaft.

WHEN we saw the good man standing with the twins in his arms and singing "Let Cares Like a Wild Deluge Come" we knew the great religious convention was a spiritual success.—Plain Dealer.

WIFE.—I must go to the doctor; I fear I've got dropsy. I weigh 250 pounds. Husband.—Where were you weighed? Wife.—On your coal scales. Husband.—Then, don't worry; your weight is normal.—Truth.

In the White Mountains: "By Jove, what a superb view there is from here!" said Wilkins. "Yes," said Dawkins. "Tell me one of your jokes now, will you? I fancy I could see it up here."—Harper's Bazar.

EXPLANATION.—Proud Father (to friend).—"This is my youngest boy. Frank; this is my Jackson; Frank (brightly).—"Is that the man who mamma said yesterday had more money than brains?"—Truth.

Mrs. SMYTHE.—"There is one thing about the outlook I don't like." Mrs. Jenkyns.—"What is it?" Mrs. Smythe.—"The United States Senate may be abolished before we become eligible to membership."—Brooklyn Life.

BINAWAY.—And young Blower, the fellow who was always boasting that he would yet do something to arouse the country; what ever became of him? Stalehome.—Manufacturing alarm clocks the last we heard.—Buffalo Courier.

In the Adirondacks: "If you should lose your way in these woods, Jack, what would you do?" "Walk straight ahead," said Jack. "The world is rounded, and I'd be sure to get back home that way sooner or later."—Harper's Young People.

"JAMES, have you poured the American champagne into the imported bottles?" "Ex shure ez me name is Moike, mum." "Well, you can put the cobwebs on the bottles now, and then practice your English accent for the rest of the afternoon."—Truth.

"You don't seem to think that was a very good story I just told you," he said in a disappointed tone. "Oh, yes, indeed I do," replied the Boston girl, reassuringly. "But I was just trying to think when that was probably translated from the Greek."—Detroit Free Press.

"JENNIE," said Mr. Younghusband, "each of these clothes-bags has got a hole in the bottom of it." "What clothes-bags? We haven't any clothes-bags." "Why, what's this I've been putting my collars and cuffs in all this week?" "Why, George! That's the sleeve to my ball-dress!"—Harper's Bazar.

"The sins of the father," etc. Tommy (studying his lesson).—"I say, pa, where does the Merrimac rise, and into what sea does it empty?" Pa.—"I don't know, my son." Tommy.—"You don't know? And to-morrow the teacher will lick me on account of your ignorance."—Harlem Life.

MR. MEERER.—It grieves me sorely, my son, to learn that you tell untruths. Take Washington, for example. He never found it necessary to lie. Junior Meerer.—I know it, father, but in his day there wasn't anything to lie about. He never tried to trade an air-gun for a bicycle.—Boston Courier.

MADE IT MANIFEST.—"Yes," said the eminent clergyman. "I nearly left the pulpit to embark in a mercantile business, but the Lord wished me to continue his work." "How did you know He did?" "My congregation offered me \$8,000 a year—and that was \$2,000 more than I was offered in business."—Brooklyn Life.

In all policies of life insurance these, among a host of other questions, occur: "Age of father, if living? Age of mother, if living?" A man in the country filled up his father's age, "if living," 112 years, and his mother's 102. The agent was amazed at this, and fancied he had secured an excellent customer, but feeling somewhat dubious, he remarked that the applicant came of a very long-lived family. "Oh, you see, sir," replied he, "my parents died many years ago, but 'if living' would be aged as there put down."—Tid-Bits.

### Not Good for Kid Gloves.

In Paris elephant skins are tanned. The process is the ordinary one except that a very powerful extract of tannin is used. When the tanned skin is taken from the vat it is nearly an inch and three-quarters thick. The tanned skin of the elephant, like that of the waligator, is used in the making of various fancy articles, and brings a high price, a small elephant-leather valise costing \$300 to \$400, and cigar cases and card cases not less than \$60 to \$80.

The best way to manage a quarrel is to stop quarreling.







